

frigging gloves the neighbors  
are lesbians so i can't screw  
one and borrow her car but  
wistful thinking won't get  
me to the store staying stone  
sober isn't appealing i'm  
just going to buy the pint  
it'll fit in my jacket pocket  
and help keep my fingers warm  
some clever bastard aren't i?

#### THE LAST TIME

she said she'd never seen  
a guy beat off so  
i leaned back grabbed my  
hard-on started pumping  
she spread her legs rubbing  
cunt and clit and breasts  
christ both of us moaning  
panting shaking climaxing  
come dribbling down cock  
and hand suddenly she's  
crouched touching licking  
tasting an hour later  
i'm heading my torino  
south to lansing towards  
a life i thought i'd wanted  
to leave but couldn't

#### THIS ONE'S FOR MY OLD MAN

who dropped dead  
at 47 in the middle  
of a word  
and missed by 2 years  
my first newspaper byline  
and by 16 years  
my first published poem  
vicarious pride denied  
he'd often yearned to write  
penned a short story  
that didn't sell and  
never tried again



then heart attacks began  
exactng a deadly toll  
though he fooled the doctors  
by surviving two of them  
dad loved life too much  
to leave without a fight  
the tough son-of-a-bitch  
who couldn't write  
this one's for my old man.

#### WHITE ANGEL

-- for Marg Daly

adult services is often  
a frustrating, depressing  
fucker of a job, but  
White Angel manages to  
give purpose to the performance.  
"face it," she said, "a  
lot of our clients are  
the pits of the community  
care system, too poor or  
too much of a problem for  
the other agencies. sure,  
they're old, sick, senile,  
disabled, retarded, crazy,  
alcoholic or whatever, but  
they're human beings who  
deserve a chance. our job  
is to be the ones who care."  
it's a catharsis talking  
to White Angel, a doris day  
lookalike inhaling gentleness  
and exhaling compassion.

#### MATURITY

my 19 year old nephew  
and 20 year old niece  
stop by to visit  
and for once i don't  
do my crazy uncle stan  
routine, we just talk  
about my experiences  
in social work, their  
college educations,  
what they want to do  
with their lives,